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# REPORT

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

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**COUNTRY** Yugoslavia

DATE OF INFORMATION 1950

**SUBJECT** Political - Organization  
Sociological - Education, religion, medicine

DATE DIST. 19 Jun 1951

NO. OF PAGES 2

50X1-HUM

**SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.**

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## POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL INFORMATION ON YUGOSLAVIA

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## 1. Internal Situation

### a. Government

The pro-Cominform ministers Sreten Zujovic and Hebrang, who were imprisoned in June 1940, were released about a month or so ago and have returned to their positions.

b. Organization of Communist Party

The Yugoslav Politburo consists of six members, including Tito, Mosa Pijade, Edvard Kardelj, and Aleksandar Rankovic. The Politburo coordinates and directs the Communist parties of the republics. The seat of government of each republic has a Central Committee of the Communist Party of that particular republic, which coordinates the district committees. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Macedonia, in Skopje, consists of the following: Secretary Lazar Koliševski, Aco Gicev, Gen Mihajlo Apostolski, and Crveto Usakovski. Under the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Macedonia are 37 district committees of the Communist Party.

The district committee of Strumica administers 72 villages. The secretary of this committee is Mitko Brozilov; age 35, a Partisan. Other members of this committee are: Mitko Khristov; Eneo Cvetanov, instructor; Mehmet Aliiev, area superintendent; Pande Nikov; Risto Tasev; and Vazo Podse.

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The leader of the Communist Party of Mokriev is Pande Vasilev. Other officials of this party are: Vazlio Lazarov, Giorgi Spasov, Tucco Iliev, Velko Janakov, and Vazo Manusev. The village party organization had 18 members, most of whom are not reliable. The party leaders exert heavy pressure upon nonparty members.

The Communist Party today is weak because of the government's terroristic policy and the panic which it has spread among the people. Only those who hold high positions in the state machine believe in Communism.

c. Propaganda

The professors and press already speak of the improvement of relations with the US, from which they expect considerable aid in food and industrial products. It is believed that Tito will join the Western Allies to meet his increasing problems. Relations with them are also expected to improve.

d. Justice

The courts grant true justice. In fact, Communist Party members who are found guilty of misdemeanors or crimes are punished more severely than non-party members, so that a good example may be set.

The following types of courts are in operation: srez courts (three members), oblast courts (six-seven members), and republic courts.

The Strumica Srez Court is composed of the following: Arapov, president; Jovan, vice-president; and Curev, judge.

e. Education

Elementary education is compulsory. Penalties are imposed upon those who do not send their children to school. There is a great shortage of notebooks and pencils. There is also a shortage of teachers, and consequently in many villages no schools are functioning.

A primary school with 100 students and two teachers is in operation in Mokriev.

The teaching of the Russian language in the gymnasiums was abolished in July 1949.

Communist Party Schools function in Skoplje, Belgrade, Zagreb, Ljubljana, and Ohrid. These schools are attended by proven party members regardless of their cultural background. The period of attendance is one year. The graduates obtain high positions in the party as commissars and secretaries. About 200 students, male and female, attended the Skoplje Party School in 1949.

f. Youth

The youth do not attend the meetings willingly. In fact, the organization had begun to slacken in the villages. The youth who are about to be conscripted into the army undergo two 4-hour sessions of pre-military training a month, under discharged enlisted men and officers from the army.

g. Religion

Persecution of the church has ceased. Most villages, however, have no priests. Attendance at the Theological School of the University of Belgrade has been permitted since 1949.

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**h. Social Welfare**

In Strumica there is a small hospital, with 20 beds, six nurses, and three doctors. The director of the hospital is Dr. Belev. Dr. Aneta is on the staff. In Skoplje, there are two polyclinics and the Sixth Army Military Hospital. Because of a very great shortage of medicine, it is very difficult to cope with epidemics. The mortality rate is higher now than before the war. There is also a shortage of doctors. Civil servants and party members receive free nursing at the hospitals.

**1. The People's Morale**

The people's morale remains low because of terrorism. The people look to American intervention for a release from their hardships.

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